Fellowship

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NIEBUHR, BENNETT DECLARE FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

Two American theologians who, more than anyone else, have represented pposition within Protestantism to Christian pacifism, this month urged the ountry editorially to "revise its approach to East-West problems to bring about uclear disarmament." Drs. Reinhold Niebuhr and John Bennett, respectively re- red vice-president and dean of New York's Union Theological Seminary, revealed e "shift" in their thinking in the ad editorial of the 20th anniversary sue of *Christianity and Crisis*, which ey edit.

The magazine was launched in 1941 "overcome the crisis of pacifism" nd provide a Christian sanction for ie nation's entry into World War II. It as had a considerable influence among hurchmen in the twenty years since, ontinuing to give religious sanction to ie basic policy of a nation heavily rmed in order to maintain peace through deterrence."

The change in approach was not un- eralded. Dr. Bennett in particular had epeatedly made known his misgivings bout the morality of using nuclear eapons. As long ago as December, 959, he wrote in *Social Action* that there is danger that our deterrent, or he situation of mutual deterrence by ieans of long-range missiles, may pro- oke the very war that it is designed o prevent." And Dr. Niebuhr, in a oreword to the recent "Community of ear" by Harrison Brown and James eal, acknowledged that the "ever- ccelerated pace of the arms race must ead to disaster, even if neither side onsciously desires the ultimate war."

The "new" point of view of the two heologians does not go so far as to ccept "nuclear pacifism," which 'isn't a possible policy," though it is nclear how the differences will be spelled out in view of Dr. Bennett's pre- ious observation (in the *Social Action* rticle) that "I do not see how Chris- ians can sanction the use of the mega- ton weapons with fallout which would kill scores of millions of people, de-

(Continued on next page)

Still Waiting!

As this issue of FELLOWSHIP *went to press, the FOR "reconciliation team" to Cuba was still awaiting permission from the State Department to make the trip. It had been scheduled to go on January 20, but was stopped when a regulation limiting travel to business and newspapermen became effective on the 19th. The team, made up of eight FOR members well known in church, academic and peace circles, hopes to discover means of reducing tension between the two countries. Top Cuban officials had indicated a willingness to waive visa requirements in order to expedite the group's trip.*

Members of the "team" are Howard Schomer, President of Chicago Theological Seminary and of the IFOR Council; Prof. Charles Lawrence, Brooklyn College, national FOR Chairman; Prof. Harrop Freeman, of Cornell Law School; Dean William Howard Nelson, Howard University; Robert Lyon, AFSC New England Executive Secretary; Annalee Stewart, Washington representative of the WIL; Herman Will, Associate General Secretary of the Methodist Board of Social Concern; and Alfred Hassler, FOR Executive Secretary.

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Niebuhr, Bennett *(cont'd)*

stroy the fabric of community in whole nations and poison the atmosphere in ways which would injure future generations."

FOR, Others Urge U.S. Aid To Starving Millions in China

Appeals to the U.S. Government to send surplus food to famine-stricken China, continued to mount in the wake of a half-page advertisement in *The New York Times* (Jan. 22) announcing the FOR's new Food for China campaign. At press time, the FOR had received approximately $1,500 in contributions to the program. Some of it will pay for small grain bags carrying the slogan "If thine enemy hunger, feed him..." and addressed to President Kennedy.

Columnist Marquis Childs suggested that such a humanitarian program would not be merely "naive and starry-eyed idealism" but might create an atmosphere of good will as did Herbert Hoover's relief mission to Soviet Russians in the 1920s.

Also referring to the China famine, *The Christian Century* in a Feb. 8 editorial urged that the U.S. act "as quickly as possible to offer food and to alleviate starvation...The Christian gospel does not read, 'If thine enemy hunger, let him starve.' "

Church Body Urges Government Withhold Funds from Institutions that Segregate

A resolution urging that government funds be withheld from "public and private institutions that segregate Americans by race or color," was issued on Jan. 31 by the United Church of Christ's Council for Christian Social Action meeting in Buck Hill Falls, Pa. The resolution also commended citizens who have protested discrimination "by nonviolent demonstrations and support of a higher civil order."

Meanwhile, a resolution condemning racial discrimination in churches as a violation "of the very character of the church," was issued on Jan. 27 by the Atlanta, Ga., Presbytery. The group also reaffirmed its agreement with a 1954 racial decision of the Church's General Assembly (Southern) which declared that "enforced segregation of the races is out of harmony with Christian theology and ethics, and that the the church in its relationship to cultural patterns should lead rather than follow."

Also in Atlanta, the Emory University student newspaper declared editorially on Jan. 26 that the "admission of Negroes" to the school "should begin as soon as it is legally and practically feasible." The Methodist institution of higher learning has been seg throughout its history.

Letter to Kennedy Urges Conversion of Fort Detrick

A letter urging the conversion of Fort Detrick to a World Health Center as an important step "toward disarmament and peace" was sent to President Kennedy last month by members of the Fort Detrick Vigil Committee in Frederick, Md. The message stressed that the Detrick laboratory, which develops bacterial, viral and fungal weapons should "without secrecy" pursue research in "microbiology, immunology and epidemiology" in order to "speed the drive against disease and hunger throughout the world."

The letter was part of a new World-Health-Center emphasis of the FOR-sponsored Vigil at Fort Detrick, which, since July 1, 1959, has been carrying on a silent protest outside the laboratory's main gates in an effort to stop preparations for germ warfare.

NEWS from the peace front

The U.S. District Court in New Haven, Conn., dismissed indictments on Feb. 2 against eight pacifists who were charged with obstructing the launching of the Polaris submarine, Ethan Allen, at Groton, Conn., last November. The eight had been arrested for entering a restricted area and "knowingly" interfering with the launching. Two of the group had also been charged with boarding the sub briefly after its launching by swimming from shore.

All eight were members of Polaris Action, a nonviolent campaign against nuclear-armed submarines, sponsored by the Committee for Nonviolent action.

* * *

Over twenty people a day have been volunteering for participation in a mass demonstration in London on Feb. 18, to protest the newly installed Polaris submarine base in Holy Loch, Scotland. Demonstrators will stage a 4-hour sit-down to emphasize their demand for the "immediate scrapping of the Polaris agreement and to serve notice on the Government that they can no longer stand aside while preparations are being made for the destruction of mankind." A declaration to this effect will be signed by all demonstrators and posted upon the Defense Ministry door.

The Committee of 100 organizing the campaign, led by pacifist philosopher Bertrand Russell and pacifist clergyman Michael Scott, has already sent out 30,000 leaflets urging participation in the protest.

* * *

FOR member Tullio Vinay, founder and leader of Agape, world-famous ecumenical youth center in northern Italy, resigned from the center staff in December to investigate plans for starting a similar institution at Riesi, Sicily. Before beginning work on the new center, he will visit the U.S. for two months at the invitation of the United Presbyterian Church in the USA, which has supported Agape since its foundation. Pastor Vinay will be succeeded as director of Agape by Pastor Giorgio Giradet, formerly minister of a Waldensian church in Trieste, who has been working at Agape since midsummer.

* * *

The Division of Inter-Church Aid of the World Council of Churches is seeking to raise $1,000,000 from member churches for relief work in the Congo, according to a decision made at a Council meeting in Geneva last month. Already upwards of $350,000 has been collected or promised for the Congo projects. In addition, food and drugs valued at $500,000 have been sent by Church World Service. Large collections of food are also being prepared for shipment by churches in the Netherlands and Norway.

* * *

Twenty-six Congressmen joined last month in introducing a newly-developed bill to create a National Peace Agency. The bill, drawn up by Rep. Robert Kastenmeier (D.-Wisc.). sets up a high-level independent agency to give new impetus to U.S. efforts to achieve peace and disarmament. "Through the various provisions of our bill," Kastenmeier said, "the scientific and intellectual resources of America will be tapped to work out solutions both to the problem of disarmament and to the many and varied political and economic tensions standing between us and a lasting peace."

* * *

A new program for young people willing to give voluntary service in this country and abroad was initiated last month by the American Friends Service Committee. During 1961 the Committee expects to assign a total of 50 young young men and women to various projects. Among the first 20 volunteers, some will be sent to Tanganyika where they will work among coffe-growing Meru and Chagga tribes which are trying to improve their agricultural production. Others will be sent to southern India where they will teach in Indian institutions and serve in other projects.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please allow 4 weeks—supply both old and new address.

LIT NOTES

"Neither Victims Nor Executioners" is an eloquent testament by the late French existentialist writer, Albert Camus, who asks the reader to make his own choice between violence and "friendly persuasion," and argues that even though its chances of success are slim, the latter is "the only honorable course" in our times. First published in English in Dwight Macdonald's *Politics* in 1947, Camus' important essay has been reprinted as a 23-page *Liberation* pamphlet at 25¢. Order from: Fellowship Publications, Box 271, Nyack, N.Y.

* * *

Worth Reading: Winter issue (No. 4, 1960) of *The Student World* devotes over a hundred pages (nearly the entire issue) to articles on "Peace in the Atomic Age," including two by pacifists Hannes de Graaf (Chairman, European Committee of Intl. FOR) and Dale Aukerman (Secretary, Puidoux Conf.). Among other contributors are Louis J. Halle, Joseph L. Hromadka and the quite unpacifist Rear Admiral Anthony Buzzard. The issue is significant because this is the official magazine of the World Student Christian Federation. Single copies 75¢ each from Natl. Student Christian Federation, 475 Riverside Drive, N. Y. 27, N. Y.

* * *

"The Campus Protest Against ROTC," a 23-page pamphlet by FOR member Allan Brick, is now available from Fellowship. Describing the growing reaction against compulsory ROTC in colleges and universities, this important essay examines and analyzes the reasons for this reaction. Price 10¢. Order from: Fellowship Publications, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

* * *

MISSING MEMBERS

If you know the whereabouts of any of these missing members, please advise the Membership Secretary, FOR, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

Here are the names, with last-known addresses where available: Maude S. Bowles (Detroit, Mich.), Bruce Bowman (Rochester, N.Y.); Charlotte Boyd (Rye, N.Y.); Franklin J. Boyer (Indianapolis, Ind.); Diane Brady (Caldwell, Idaho); Trent M. Brady (San Francisco, Cal.); Rev. Virgil V. Brallier (Malden, Mass.); Rev. Erich Brandt (Manchester, Conn.); John C. Brandt, Jr. (St. Louis, Mo.); Byron M. Branson (Baltimore, Md.); Robert S. Bravard (Wilmington, Ohio); Erna M. Brenneman (Hennepin, Ill.); Nathalie M. Brewer (New York, N.Y.); Esther Briesemeister (San Francisco, Cal.).

DATES TO REMEMBER

Every Wednesday. New York FOR informal luncheon discussion meetings at 12:45 p.m. at the Interchurch Center cafeteria, 475 Riverside Drive, N.Y.C.

Mar. 3-5. AFSC Institute of International Relations at the Hotel Onondage, E. Jefferson and S. Warren Sts., Syracuse, N. Y. Speakers: William E. Meyer, Norman Whitney and others. Write: Lena Gray, 841 University Bldg., Syracuse 2, N. Y.

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